



June 12, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, we are currently reviewing our transportation services to ensure the health and safety of our students remains our top priority.

Given the uncertainties of our ongoing review and possible directions yet to be received from our provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, we will likely be unable to confirm our bus capacity or ridership until some point later this summer. We anticipate that the district will continue to have a reduced overall capacity available and this could impact the number of students we are able to approve for ridership. It is likely that we will not have spaces available for paying courtesy riders.

At this time we are moving forward with bus registration for the 2020-21 school year. The registration period will be June 17, 2020 – July 17, 2020. Confirmations of seat assignments will be sent later in the summer. Should you wish to register a student that is not eligible, your request will be put onto a waitlist only. Please see the Bus Services FAQs for September 2020 document for more details regarding eligibility.

We have a new on-line application form, and we ask that all requests be completed using this method. The form can be located on your school website, or you can search the Surrey School District website by selecting Schools - Bus Services – Bus Registration Form.

The direct link is <https://www.surreyschools.ca/departments/FACL/BusServices/Pages/default.aspx>

Please note, the on-line application process will close after the deadline date of July 17, 2020.

Kind Regards,

**Tracy Mowat**  
Manager Transportation & Central Stores  
Surrey School District #36  
6700 144<sup>th</sup> Street, Surrey, BC, V3W 5R5  
604-572-0500

## School District No. 36 (Surrey) Bus Services FAQs for September 2020

### Who is eligible for free busing during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Every effort will be made to provide transportation, free of charge to areas where eligible students reside.

Grades K-3: Students that live in a residence that is located **more than** 4.0 kms from their catchment school.

Grades 4-12: Students that live in a residence that is located **more than** 4.8 kms from their catchment school.

### If my child is not eligible for free busing, is there a paid option to ride during the COVID-19 pandemic?

In order to adhere to physical distancing guidelines and safe procedures on the school bus during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of students we are able to have on a bus will be greatly reduced. During this time we will be limiting our routes to serve eligible riders and those that currently receive busing due to unsafe walking conditions only.

### Does my child need to show a bus pass every day?

Students will be required to show their bus pass to confirm they are a registered and authorized rider. We must continue to adhere to the laws and regulations that apply to the operation of a school bus.

### Can my child bring a friend home with them on the bus?

Friends will not be permitted on the bus during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### What Exposure Control Measures have you added to the bus?

In the midst of COVID-19 the K-12 sector is taking direction from a number of governing bodies:

[Government of BC – Response to COVID-19](#)

[BC Canadian Centre for Disease Control](#)

[WorkSafe BC](#)

Cleaning:

- Clean and wipe down all high touch surfaces with disinfectant spray between all runs
- Full daily clean and disinfect of all areas of the bus
- Hand sanitizer will be available when entering and exiting the bus

Loading/Unloading

- Students sit in their own seat
- Students should be separated side to side and front to back
- Students from the same household can share seats if space is limited
- Students will enter the bus one at a time with distancing between
- Students will sit in seats identified for use and will fill the bus from the back to front to avoid passing others
- Students will exit from the front to avoid passing others
- Students are responsible for maintaining physical distancing while waiting for the bus
- Wearing a mask is a personal choice

**When can I register for busing for the 2020-2021 school year?**

*Bus registration for the 2020-2021 school year will be June 17, 2020 to July 17, 2020. If registered by the established deadline date, eligible riders will be considered for a seat in September. Seat confirmations will be provided as soon as possible before the start up of school. Those that do not register by the established deadline date may be placed on a wait list for September.*

**Where can I find more information about bus service?**

*Information is located on our Bus Services page of the Surrey School District website at:*  
<https://www.surreyschools.ca/departments/FACL/BusServices/Pages/default.aspx>

**What about students with Special Needs?**

*Students with a special needs designation may be eligible for free busing on our special needs buses. Please contact your school principal for more information.*